IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday March 4th 2001

Tory Island

Last week Paddy EI7GK activated Tory Island. Stations all over Europe were worked along with North America, South America, Africa and Asia. Many WAI hunters got the Island and the rare square B84 Co. Donegal. On Sunday Paddy was visited by the King of the Island for the reading of Nuacht na Gaeilge. The King was very impressed with the call in from all over EI and told Paddy that there would be a big welcome on Tory for any Radio Amateurs who wanted to visit.

Rally News

The Lough Erne Amateur Radio Club will hold its 2001 Rally on the 22nd of April 2001 in the Killyhevlin Hotel, Dublin Road, Enniskillen. Further information can be had from Frank GI3ZMX at 028-6632-9507.

The Limerick Radio Club would like to remind all those who wish to attend the Dinner Dance on the 7th April 2001 in the Limerick Inn that tickets are now available. Please contact Paul EI6FE on 061-360122 or email him on ei6fe@eircom.net. May we remind you that payment in full in advance would be appreciated. Tickets are £25 per person. All accommodation in the Limerick Inn has been taken. Last bookings for the Dinner Dance will be the 17th March 2001. We would be grateful if all those attending would adhere to this deadline as the hotel need to know the exact numbers attending several weeks in advance. The Limerick Radio Club would like to thank all of you who are supporting the club by attending the function and look forward to seeing you all soon.

EI Activity Weekend

The EI activity weekend will take place again this year on March the 17th and 18th. Everybody can get involved in this event using any band and any mode, as the purpose of the event is to promote amateur radio in EI. This event went very well last year so lets hope that this year sees the same amount of activity on the air.

Tipperary Amateur Radio Group

Tipperary Amateur Radio Group will be holding their next monthly meeting @ their usual venue in Raheen House Hotel in Clonmel on Wednesday next the 7th of March at 8pm. All are welcome to attend. Included in this meeting will be a short presentation by John Burke EI2JB and John Ronan EI7IG on the recent activation of Bere Island held this weekend the 3rd and 4th of March. This activation was jointly organised and participated in by members of Waterford Institute of Technology Radio Group and Tipperary Amateur Radio Group.

Trans Atlantic

The Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) reports that the first successful transatlantic contact on 136 kHz was completed on February 19, between G3AQC in England and VA3LK in Canada. Unique modifications were needed in order to complete this QSO at such a low frequency. RAC says the QSO was made using a visual adaptation of Morse code, and a special visual signal-receiving program.

CQ congratulates both G3AQC and VA3LK on this accomplishment. For more details, see the news page on the CQ website at www.cq-amateur-radio.com

DX News

Sao Sebastiao Island is located in the central coast of Sao Paulo State - Locator GG 76. The island will be activated from March the 15th to the 19th on CW and SSB from 10 to 80 meters, including the newer bands, depending on propagation. Callsigns in use will be PU1NEZ/2, PY1LVF/2, PY1NEW/2 and PY1NEZ/2. QSL via home call or through the Bureau. All Short Wave Listener reports will be appreciated.

IRTS Awards

Nominations are requested by the Awards Manager Peter EI4HX for the following IRTS Awards:- ARUP cup, Collins Cup, Pat Conway Cup, Folan Shield, Sheila Piper Cup, and the Kevin Freeny Trophy. Applications are also invited for the EI7IQ 6 Metre Activity Awards. [See page 19 of the new 2001 Year Book]. Please note that those holding awards must return them before the AGM.

The Ian Morris Memorial Trophy is presented at the IRTS AGM each year to the short-wave listener who has the most DXCC entities confirmed during the previous year. The closing date for entries is April the 1st 2001.

Worked All Ireland

The WAI net frequency is 7.068 MHz and some Counties seem to have a low profile on this net. Operators (operating from fixed stations) are encouraged to call in to the WAI net from time to time, especially on weekends. So the next time you're operating on the HF bands, take some time out to call in on 7.068 and promote amateur radio in your area.

Items for inclusion in Echo Ireland should be forwarded to Dave Moore EI4BZ at 021-4883555 in the evenings or at 021-4823172 during office hours. Items can be submitted to Dave by e-mail at ei4bz@eircom.net and you can fax him at 021-4823316. Items for inclusion in the Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall EI7IS at QTHR or via e-mail to ei7is@qsl.net or cyberis@e-merge.ie. Items can also be sent to Mark over the phone at 087-6302026. News can also be submitted via e-mail to news@irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both news services.

[C]